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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3204

**COMMITTEE ON
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**COMMITTEE ON
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ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

March 12, 2019

The Honorable Theodore Deutch
Chairman
House Committee on Ethics
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kenny Marchant
Ranking Member
House Committee on Ethics
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Deutch and Ranking Member Marchant,

I respectfully request that the House Committee on Ethics immediately open an investigation into a recent statement made by Rep. Matt Gaetz (FL-01).

On Tuesday, February 26th, Rep. Gaetz tweeted from his non-official account "Hey @MichaelCohen212 - Do your wife & father-in-law know about your girlfriends? Maybe tonight would be a good time for that chat. I wonder if she'll remain faithful when you're in prison. She's about to learn a lot..." Please find a screenshot of the tweet enclosed.

Mr. Cohen was scheduled to testify as a witness at a public hearing in front of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on Wednesday, February 27th at 10:00 am, less than 12 hours after the tweet was sent.

I am requesting this investigation pursuant to 18 U.S. Code § 1512, which clearly defines witness tampering and intimidation. According to the Department of Justice (DOJ), this statute applies to proceedings before Congress.

After the House Committee on Ethics thoroughly investigates this matter, I urge you to make any and all appropriate referrals to DOJ.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress

360 Stewart Ave
Apartment 3F
Garden City, NY 11530

District of Columbia: SS
Subscribed and Sworn to before me
this 13 day of March, 2019
Kevin Kelley
Kevin Kelley, Notary Public, D.C.
My commission expires January 14, 2020

